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MINERAL INDUSTRY SURVEYS

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF MINES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20241



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Sodium Compounds, Monthly

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U.S. PRODUCTION OF NATURAL SODA ASH AND NATURAL SODIUM SULFATE, OCTOBER 1986

Natural soda ash production in October decreased 5% compared with that of the previous month, according to the Bureau of Mines, U.S. Department of the Interior. Soda ash production in October was 700,000 short tons, 12% less than that of October 1985. Wyoming trona production in October was 1,054,092 tons.

Apparent consumption of total soda ash in October was estimated at 555,000 tons, 13% less than the October 1985 level of 637,000 tons.

Exports and imports of soda ash in October were 158,371 tons and 14,000 tons, respectively.

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Table 1.--Salient soda ash and natural sodium sulfate statistics
(Short tons)

Period	Soda ash ^{1/}		Natural sodium sulfate	
	Production	Ending stocks ^{2/}	Production	Ending stocks
1985:				
January-----	666,427	318,374	W	W
February-----	648,890	313,988	W	W
March-----	703,603	313,432	W	W
April-----	664,932	280,094	W	W
May-----	753,457	298,488	W	W
June-----	690,512	244,944	W	W
July-----	710,871	278,720	W	W
August-----	729,255	324,894	W	W
September-----	671,574	299,566	W	W
October-----	793,386	298,710	W	W
November-----	739,137	350,415	W	W
December-----	739,011	391,670	W	W
1985 total-----	8,511,055	391,670	321,835	31,325
1986:				
January-----	715,912	448,504	W	W
February-----	655,675	390,374	W	W
March-----	743,418	437,075	W	W
April-----	611,186	348,640	W	35,381
May-----	795,046	318,177	W	41,648
June-----	761,881	-319,011	W	35,140
July-----	728,264	334,456	W	40,938
August-----	746,859	239,778	W	46,133
September-----	733,556	292,531	W	86,677
October-----	700,233	<u>e/294,000</u>	W	74,444
1986 year-to-date--	7,192,030	--	317,867	--

e/Estimated.

W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

1/Natural only beginning in Feb. 1986. Synthetic soda ash production was terminated February 1986 when Allied-Signal Corp.'s Syracuse, NY, facility closed permanently.

2/Includes natural and synthetic. Some imports are included in ending inventories in 1986.

Table 2.—U.S. exports of soda ash and sodium sulfate
(Thousand short tons and thousand dollars)

Period	Sodium carbonate, calcined		Crude		Sodium sulfate Refined		Total	
	Quan- tity	Value ^{1/}	Quan- tity	Value ^{1/}	Quan- tity	Value ^{1/}	Quan- tity	Value ^{1/}
1985:								
Jan.-Oct.-----	<u>r</u> /1,500	148,174	85	8,419	17	2,894	<u>2</u> /104	11,313
1986:								
January-----	194	23,347	1	83	(3/)	41	1	124
February-----	110	12,600	7	680	(3/)	77	7	757
March-----	149	18,038	8	791	(3/)	59	8	850
April-----	92	9,662	5	460	<u>2</u>	547	7	1,007
May-----	259	29,689	12	1,096	1	51	13	1,147
June-----	180	21,281	7	652	(3/)	83	7	735
July-----	146	15,838	5	518	(3/)	151	5	669
August-----	276	30,940	12	1,075	(3/)	38	12	1,113
September-----	160	18,303	(3/)	15	(3/)	90	(3/)	105
October-----	158	19,113	<u>10</u>	903	<u>1</u>	174	<u>11</u>	1,077
1986 to date----	1,724	198,811	67	6,273	5	1,311	<u>2</u> /72	7,584

r/Revised.

1/Free alongside ship (f.a.s.) value at U.S. port.

2/Data do not add to total shown because of independent rounding.

3/Less than $\frac{1}{2}$ unit, included in total.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Table 3.—U.S. exports of soda ash by country in October 1986
(Short tons)

Country	Quantity	Percent of total
South Africa, Republic of-----	25,353	16
Brazil-----	23,076	15
Venezuela-----	18,104	11
Canada-----	12,047	8
Hong Kong-----	11,133	7
Argentina-----	11,097	7
Colombia-----	10,035	6
China-----	9,700	6
United Kingdom-----	9,191	6
Korea, Republic of-----	7,716	5
Indonesia-----	7,165	5
Other-----	13,754	8
Total-----	158,371	100

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Table 4.—U.S. imports of soda ash and sodium sulfate
(Thousand short tons and thousand dollars)

Period	Sodium carbonate, calcined & sesquicarbonate		Crudel/		Sodium sulfate Anhydrous		Total	
	Quan- tity	Value ^{2/}	Quan- tity	Value ^{2/}	Quan- tity	Value ^{2/}	Quan- tity	Value ^{2/}
1985:								
Jan.-Oct.-----	40	5,677	31	2,107	124	10,393	3/156	12,500
1986:								
January-----	4	605	4	248	16	1,209	20	1,457
February-----	4	636	3	169	12	885	15	1,054
March-----	8	1,260	2	96	16	1,217	18	1,313
April-----	6	927	3	149	20	1,557	23	1,706
May-----	7	1,042	3	152	15	1,209	18	1,361
June-----	12	1,805	3	164	10	779	13	943
July-----	14	2,030	2	143	11	787	13	930
August-----	11	1,649	2	165	13	952	15	1,117
September-----	10	1,453	2	136	12	821	14	957
October-----	14	1,809	3	156	14	1,090	14	1,246
1986 to date----	90	13,216	27	1,578	139	10,506	163	12,084

1/Includes Glauber's salt.

2/Customs, insurance, and freight (c.i.f.) value at U.S. port.

3/Data do not add to total shown because of independent rounding.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Table 5.--U.S. apparent consumption of soda ash
(Thousand short tons)

Period	Production	Imports	Exports	Net stock		Apparent consumption ^{1/}
				increase or decrease		
1985:						
January-----	666	1	116	--	3	554
February-----	649	--	142	--	4	511
March-----	704	1	80	--	1	626
April-----	665	1	196	--	33	503
May-----	753	1	185	18	--	551
June-----	691	2	122	--	54	625
July-----	711	4	173	34	--	508
August-----	729	8	108	46	--	583
September-----	672	14	213	--	25	498
October-----	793	8	165	--	1	637
November-----	739	7	139	52	--	555
December-----	739	9	2/108	41	--	599
1985 total ^{3/} -----	8,511	56	1,747	70	--	6,750
1985:						
Jan.-Oct.-----	7,033	40	1,500	--	23	5,596
1986:						
January-----	716	4	4/194	57	--	469
February-----	656	4	110	--	58	608
March-----	743	8	149	47	--	555
April-----	611	6	92	--	88	613
May-----	795	7	259	--	30	573
June-----	762	12	180	1	--	593
July-----	728	14	146	15	--	581
August-----	747	11	276	--	95	577
September-----	734	10	160	53	--	531
October-----	700	14	158	e/1	--	e/555
1986 to date-----	7,192	90	1,724	--	e/97	e/5,655

e/Estimated.

^{1/}Production + imports - exports + stock changes.

^{2/}Includes 16,276 tons shipped in December 1985 but erroneously credited to January 1986.

^{3/}Data may not add to total shown because of independent rounding.

^{4/}Excludes 16,276 tons shipped in December 1985 but erroneously credited to January 1986.